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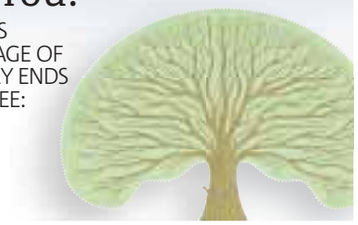
METRO CANADA'S THREE-PART VOYAGE OF FAMILY DISCOVERY ENDS TODAY. PART THREE: YOUR GENES DON'T LIE!

PAGES 8 & 9



In search of a blueprint for ending homelessness

$70,000 in federal cash for London CAReS will help researchers map a strategy for better programs and get the homeless off the streets

PAGE 5

Veronica Mars is on the case

After raising more than $2.5 million on Kickstarter, producers say the movie version of the beloved teen series is a go PAGE 16

NEWS WORTH SHARING.

Police primed for St. Pat's Day

Party central. Skating and Budweiser events add to challenge

ANGELA MULLINS
angela.mullins@metronews.ca

Posted plans online for a wild St. Patrick's Day party? Be prepared for a knock on the door from some of London's finest.

Police are turning to social media this year as they try to keep revellers in check. Using Facebook, Twitter and other tools, officers have already identified at least a few places where wild parties might crop up, Chief Brad Duncan said.

"Our core unit and other members will likely be making some visits prior to the weekend" to dole out some friendly advice, Duncan said.

Police will also be tweeting on Sunday, an effort to curb bad behaviour by making an example of those who take things a bit too far. The force is planning its largest deployment yet for the holiday, with downtown, Richmond Row and student areas expected to see the most feet on the street.

All-day affair

- Police will be on the streets all day on St. Patrick's Day, which usually starts by monitoring keg breakfasts.
- In the late morning and early afternoon, safety becomes a big issue downtown and along Richmond Row as people bar-hop.
- After dark, police generally have to decide whether streets should be closed.

Police will be faced with a trifecta of added pressures this year. Sunday is the final day of the World Figure Skating Championships, meaning lots of tourists will be in town. Budweiser is organizing a first for London — a 14-hour tent party with an expected 3,500 people behind London Music Hall.

Then, there's the elephant in the room: The one-year anniversary of an alcohol-fuelled riot on Fleming Drive near Fanshawe College that caused an estimated $100,000 in property damage and led to 175 charges against 68 people.

Police stepped up their zero-tolerance approach in student districts when classes resumed after summer break. Duncan expects that might help curb problems this weekend.

"The messaging has been really important," he said. "I think in the fall, after what happened last year, we saw a great deal of compliance, especially out of the Fleming area."

This year, police will be armed with a city ordinance that allows them to disband parties on private property and dole out hefty fines to people hosting them. Officers won't hesitate to use the law's full power, Duncan said.

SKATING THEIR HEARTS OUT

Tessa Virtue, 23, of London, and Scott Moir, 25, of Ilderton, perform in the ice-dancing short dance competition on Thursday during the World Figure Skating Championships at Budweiser Gardens. More coverage, pages 2, 4, 24 & 25. JOHN MATISZ/METRO

NEWS 1

Skate Canada House

Presented by the London Arts Council, London's Alive with Talent showcases local arts and culture performers at Skate Canada House (schedule subject to change):

Friday

- **12:10-12:40 p.m.:** Cracovia Polish Dance Ensemble
- **5:10-5:30 p.m.:** Sol & Luna Fusion Bellydance
- **5:50-6:50 p.m.:** Like a Hero Going Home by Chippewa of the Thames First Nation
- **7:10-7:50 p.m.:** Brassroots

Saturday

- **12:30-1 p.m.:** Light of East Ensemble
- **1:20-1:40 p.m.:** Korean Dances
- **1:50-2:10 p.m.:** Saidat
- **2:50-3:20 p.m.:** Golden Harp Steel Orchestra
- **6:40-7 p.m.:** London Chinese Dance Group
- **7:30-7:50 p.m.:** Lion Dancers

Sunday

- **12:30-12:50 p.m.:** Dasein Dance Theatre
- **1:20-2:30 p.m.** Hispanic Mosaic

Skate Canada House is in the tent to the south side at Market Square, across from Budweiser Gardens.

SKATECANADA

Restaurants not feeling event edge

Overstocked and overstaffed. Several downtown eateries disappointed with skating business

ANGELA MULLINS
angela.mullins@metronews.ca

Devon Turner, a bartender at Up Front at the Market (130 King St.), fills pitchers during a slow lunch on Thursday. Turner hasn't been as busy as she expected with the World Figure Skating Championships in town. ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

The world is at London's doorstep this week. But, apparently, it's not very hungry.

That's the impression many downtown restaurant owners are getting as figure-skating crowds — and the money in their pockets — aren't living up to expectations.

"We're about 25 per cent of where we'd expected to be," said John Gillan, general manager of Up Front at the Market (130 King St.).

"And that's being polite."

Eateries brought in extra staff, bought extra food and, in some cases, planned abbreviated menus to move people in and out during the World Figure Skating Championships.

Now, with the weeklong event wrapping up in a matter of days, some are questioning what all the hype was about. Several restaurant managers and owners said they've cut scheduled staff multiple days or taken losses from overstocking.

Gillan, whose restaurant is providing food for the Skate Canada House tent, rented a mobile kitchen for the week, expecting to need the extra room for all the dishes being ordered. He cancelled the order Thursday morning, shortly after the kitchen arrived.

Possible hitch

- One of the big problems facing restaurants this week is the amount of time tourists, an estimated 35,000 of them, are spending at Budweiser Gardens, which is hosting the skating competition.
- Skaters are literally on the ice all day, giving most spectators only one 40-minute window to leave the venue.
- That's not enough time, restaurant owners said, for very many people to get in their doors and have a meal.
- Downtown London had recommended eateries join forces for a special promotion, offering discounts to help draw the local crowd. Restaurants weren't interested, said Janette MacDonald, manager of the business association. But, she said, that might have helped.

The Rocks on King (93 King St.) has been opening earlier than usual to offer breakfast, something that's not on the regular menu. They've served only one early riser in a little less than a week, manager Seve Sanfilippo said.

"We've had the full staff on all week, just waiting," he said. "I'll be happy if we break even."

Janette MacDonald, manager of the Downtown London business association, said hosting the world has been a learning experience that will be revisited after the event. A lot of businesses have lost regular customers this week because people think there's nowhere to park, which, she said, isn't the case.

The association based crowd estimates, shared with businesses in advance, on information provided by Skate Canada, which is organizing the championships alongside the International Skating Union, she said.

"We've done everything we possibly could (to help businesses)," MacDonald said. "I feel bad for them if they're overstocked and overstaffed."

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Figure-skating super fan a hit at Gardens

Joan Sherman. Purple clad woman a lifelong supporter of the sport

JOHN MATISZ
john.matisz@metronews.ca

When Patrick Chan rewrote the record books on Wednesday night, scoring a 98.37 in the 2013 World Figure Skating Championships men's short program, Budweiser Gardens erupted.

Section 108, home to super fan Joan Sherman, may have produced the most noise.

"The excitement last night was just indescribable," Sherman said on Thursday.

She wears her heart on her sleeve, cheering on each domestic skater participating in the worlds with more vigour than the last. The purple-clad woman from Woodstock is a lifelong supporter of the sport, and her enthusiasm has never waned.

Figure-skating super fan Joan Sherman of Woodstock awaits the start of Thursday's ladies short program in her Budweiser Gardens seat. JOHN MATISZ/ METRO

At the Gardens this week, whether sitting in her aisle seat in Section 108 or walking the concourse, Sherman has become something of a celebrity. Her passion, expressed mainly by sporting an abundance of purple attire, appears unbridled.

Her personalized embroidered suit jacket, painted nails, wild hairdo, makeup, shoes, pants, you name it, are purple.

Interestingly, Sherman says she's been dyeing her hair purple since the late 1980s. The fact it matches the event's colour scheme is a mere coincidence. She calls it her "daily look."

"I've got too much money invested in purple. I can't change now," Sherman added.

It's unlikely she could ever change sports, either.

Joan Sherman

Getting to know super fan Joan Sherman:

- **Favourite skater of all time:** Tie between Canadian Brian Orser (two-time Olympic silver medallist) and American Brian Boitano (Olympic gold medallist).
- **Involvement in skating nowadays:** Coaches out of Brantford, Paris, and Burford.
- **Skating events attended this season:** Skate Canada (October in Windsor), Canadian championships (January in Mississauga), world championships (this month in London).

More shows

Performances added to Tree of Light show

The sound and light show is on the east side of Budweiser Gardens.

The presentation, created by Montreal-based Moment Factory, is just over 10 minutes in length. Bolded times below are the additional performances.

Friday
8 p.m., 10:10 p.m., **10:30 p.m.**
Saturday
8 p.m. 9:30 p.m., **10:30 p.m.**,11:20 p.m.

METRO

Walking tour promotes art and downtown core

The Steve Tracy Gallery has released a self-guided walking tour of London to encourage Londoners and tourists to explore the community.

The tour includes 11 locations in the downtown core to see more than 100 original Steve Tracy paintings.

The artist, whose works have previously been installed in the Empire State Building, the New York Friar's Club and many other locations, is relatively new to London.

"I am particularly excited to be involved with the London community during the figure-skating championships," Tracy said in a news release. "It is setting a precedent for a wonderful downtown environment."

Copies of the self-guided tour are available at the Arts Project, the Steve Tracy Gallery (both at 203 Dundas St.), and at SteveTracyArt.com. The participating venues are also displaying the poster with a QR code to direct people to the online information. METRO

Kickoff

The tour kickoff takes place during the World Figure Skating Championships and is set to last two weeks.

'Legal' marijuana?

Izms is illegal: London police

London police have been getting inquires about a new drug available in convenience stores named Izms. Analysis by Health Canada has identified the existence of synthetic cannabinoids in the product, making it illegal. METRO

Dangerous smoke

Salvia can produce bad effects: Cops

London police are warning people about the effects of Salvia. The London-Middlesex Health Unit warns that it can leave the user incapable of controlling their physical movements and in some cases may cause suicidal tendencies. METRO

Fanshawe College

Students win gold at culinary event

Fanshawe College students brought home nine gold, two silver and three bronze medals from the Canadian Culinary Federation Culinary Arts Salon recently in Toronto. The culinary students also won two "best of" awards. METRO

Children's Health

CAISA Fashion Show on Saturday

Tickets are available for the Canadian Asian International Students' Association Fashion Show on Saturday at 7 p.m. at Centennial Hall. The cost is $25 early bird, $30 regular, $45 VIP. Proceeds go to the Children's Health Foundation. METRO

Fighting HIV-AIDS

Western Heads East fundraiser set

Join Western Heads East for an evening of celebration and support for Western University's response to the HIV-AIDS pandemic in Africa. The annual fundraiser will take place Wednesday from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Great Hall. METRO

sharethebounty.ca

Vote for London women's centre!

The London Abused Women's Centre is a finalist in the Share the Bounty National Giveaway by Nature's Bounty Canada. Continuing through March 29, you can visit sharethebounty.ca and vote for the London centre daily. METRO

Researchers to tap into homelessness

Study. Federal funding could lead to better programs in cities like London: Officials

ANGELA MULLINS
angela.mullins@metronews.ca

London researchers are getting $70,000 from Ottawa to study the effectiveness of a city strategy for combating homelessness, mental illness and addiction.

Led by Lawson Health Research Institute, the 18 months' worth of work is expected to turn out recommendations on how London — and other medium-sized cities — can step up its game.

"So much research about homelessness happens in large urban centres, like Vancouver and Montreal," said Cheryl Forchuk, an assistant director at Lawson who will oversee the research. "We need research that says ... what makes sense in these smaller municipal areas."

The research will focus on 200 people who have accessed services through London CAReS.

Researchers will use focus groups, individual interviews and data such as the number of hospital visits to analyze patients' lives in the year before they got help. This information will be compared to the year after they received assistance.

Preliminary results are expected to be presented in October with final findings ready by the end of next year, Forchuk said.

The research comes as city officials chart a new course for battling homelessness and related issues.

The city has pumped $1.2 million a year into London CAReS, which stands for Community Addiction Response Strategy, since 2008. The program will end Dec. 31.

Administrators plan to start talking with councillors next month about fine-tuning a strategy for the coming years, said Jan Richardson, the city's manager of homelessness, hostels and special populations.

Artists Carving a Chunk Outta Cancer

Chainsaw artist Paul Frenette of Kitchener adds fine details Thursday to an owl with a six-foot wing span during STIHL Canada's Carving a Chunk Outta Cancer display as part of the World Figure Skating Championships. Sculptors have been hard at work this week in front of the Bell building (100 Dundas St.), turning slabs of wood into masterpieces. The works will be judged Saturday and auctioned at 1 p.m. June 23 at Boler Mountain (689 Boler Rd.). Proceeds will go to Childcan, a non-profit that supports child cancer patients and their families. People's-choice ballots can be cast at Facebook.com/CarvingAChunkOuttaCancer. ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

Little progress. Horwath, Wynne meet over budget

Ontario NDP Leader Andrea Horwath didn't have much to say about whether the province will be headed for the polls this spring after her 20-minute meeting with Premier Kathleen Wynne.

Horwath says she talked to Wynne about her demands for the budget, including a 15 per cent cut to auto-insurance premiums. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gambling. Tories want to scrap Liberals' plans

The Progressive Conservatives say they want to scrap the province's plans for more casinos and online gambling.

Leader Tim Hudak says the Tories would focus instead on the horse-racing industry, which is still reeling from the Liberals' decision to cancel the slots-at-racetracks program.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Pope Francis puts humility on display

First day. The new Pope eschews the ceremonial trappings of his predecessor

Pope Francis put his humility on display during his first day as pontiff on Thursday, stopping by his hotel to pick up his luggage and pay the bill himself in a decidedly different style of papacy than his tradition-minded predecessor, who tended to stay ensconced in the frescoed halls of the Vatican.

The break from Benedict XVI's pontificate was evident even in Francis's wardrobe choices: He kept the simple iron pectoral cross of his days as bishop and eschewed the red cape that Benedict wore when he was presented to the world for the first time in 2005 — choosing instead the simple white cassock of the papacy.

And in his first mass as pope, Francis showed how different he would be as a pastor, giving an off-the-cuff homily about the need to walk with God, build up His church and confess — at one point referring to children building sandcastles on the beach.

It was a far simpler message than the dense, three-page discourse Benedict delivered in Latin during his first mass as pope in 2005.

The difference in style was a sign of Francis's belief that the Catholic Church needs to be at one with the people it serves and not impose its message on a society that often doesn't want to hear it, Francis's authorized biographer, Sergio Rubin, said in an interview on Thursday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

What's in a face: Mexico-based facial-communication psychologist Miriam Cervantes Rodriguez analyzes the new pontiff's visage

METRO MEXICO

DMITRY LOVETSKY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Eyebrows

Observer. Close to the eyes, which denotes that he keeps himself focused, with sustained attention. Very observant.

Eyelashes

Apprehensive. Small and thin. Indicate nervousness.

Ears

Analytical. Low, large and open: Key for decision-making that requires repeated analysis of information. Has a lot of physical energy.

Chin

Intense. Shows its intensity to achieve objectives; does not cave to pressure and can be aggressive if necessary.

Frontal sinuses

Innovative. Shows rich imagination, ingenuity and initiative. Creative, active, selective and, in general, of optimistic nature.

Irises

Emotional. Wide, a lot of expression in the eyes, which signifies an openness to emotional exchange.

Mouth

Discreet. Large with thin lips. Denotes the gift of the word, great charisma and discretion when talking about personal matters.

Jawline

Strong. Large and reflects that the Pope is faithful to his principles and tends not to bend his attitude to new ideas.

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Fired zookeeper wants his job back

Calgary. Staffer recounts being bitten, dragged after gorillas escaped into kitchen

Garth Irvine METRO FILE

Fired for leaving a door unlatched that allowed gorillas to gain entrance to an off-limits kitchen area, a former keeper with the Calgary Zoo says he plans to appeal to get his job back.

Garth Irvine had been in his role at the zoo for nearly 25 years, but last Friday morning he encountered a situation unlike any before.

Irvine entered a staff kitchen area next to the gorilla enclosure to find three female apes inside. He claims he moved quickly to usher them out of the area but in the process, startled a roughly 455-pound silverback named Kakinga.

"He charged ... he pinned me down, he gave me a small bite, he flipped me over and dragged me about six feet and then he ran away," Irvine told Metro in an exclusive interview.

Irvine then managed to radio for help. He estimates the situation was resolved in less than seven minutes.

But the zoo announced this week it was firing Irvine, who had also previously taken responsibility for leaving a knife inside the enclosure in 2009 that was then picked up by a gorilla. A photo of the primate holding the knife near a fellow enclosure mate garnered international headlines, but a report later cleared the zoo of any wrongdoing.

Then, in 2010, Irvine also took the blame for an incident that saw two giant snakes slither down an uncovered drain. The pair were missing for nearly 24 hours.

Still, Irvine told Metro Thursday that in an environment with so many moving parts, mishaps are bound to happen. "I would say absolutely everyone does make mistakes."

And that's why Irvine said he is planning to kick-start an appeal process that would first see the incident reviewed by the zoo's director of animal care, then the CEO, and finally the City of Calgary's parks department.

Irvine said he's also exploring other opportunities, including a possible career as a public speaker. He is scheduled to give a recap of some of his favourite memories of working with gorillas in a public-speaker series.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO IN CALGARY

Index. Canada out of top 10 most-developed countries

Canada has slipped out of the top 10 countries listed in the annual United Nations human-development index — a far cry from the 1990s, when it held the first place for most of the decade.

The 2013 report, which reviews a country's performance in health, education and income, places Canada in 11th place versus 10th last year.

A closer look shows Canada actually did better than last year, but other countries such as Japan and Australia improved at a greater rate.

When the numbers are adjusted for gender inequality, Canada slumps to 18th place. The U.S. fares even worse — sinking from third to 42nd place.

But the main finding of the report, entitled The Rise of the South, is positive. It says countries that had previously struggled with poverty and inequality are now on a steady developmental climb.

Even the countries at the bottom of the list, Niger and the Democratic Republic of Congo, are among those who showed the greatest improvement.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada is in 11th place on the UN's development index. The Rise of the South report shows better news, though, for developing countries. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

My health or no health?

Disgruntled senior allegedly makes bomb threat

The RCMP allege an elderly woman called a bomb threat in to a health centre in Penticton, B.C., because she was angry her appointment had been changed.

Police say she called the centre Thursday morning and falsely claimed there was a bomb set to go off inside. THE CANADIAN PRESS/CKFR

Quebec

SNC-Lavalin gave illegal contributions

Canada's largest engineering company has admitted it participated in illegal political financing. A vice-president at SNC-Lavalin testified Thursday at Quebec's corruption inquiry, saying dozens of execs, and sometimes spouses, donated just over $1 million to the Quebec Liberal party and the Parti Québécois from 1998 to 2010.

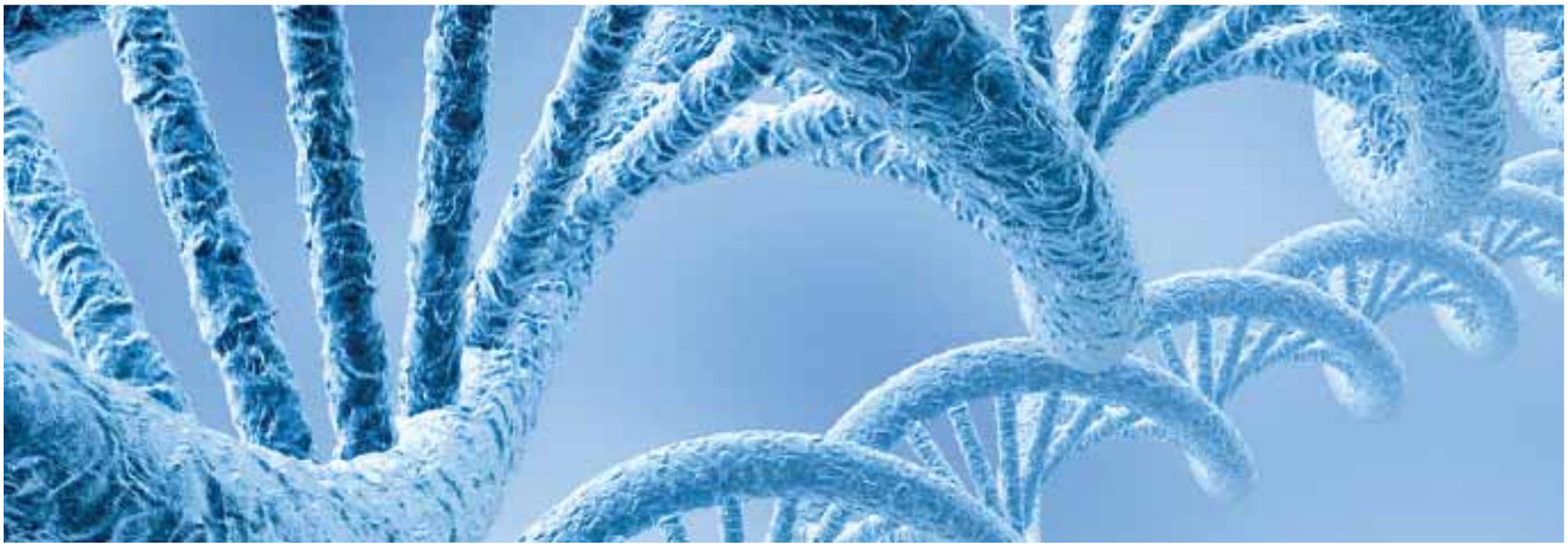
THE CANADIAN PRESS

More Easter fun awaits!

From gifts to fun activities explore all things Easter at shoppersdrugmart.ca/easter

SHOPPERS DRUG MART

Sugar and spice and everything nice? More like deoxyribonucleic acid, or DNA. Just like you can make different kinds of cakes by altering the recipe slightly, we are all made of the same ingredients in unique amounts. In this final instalment in our three-part series on genealogy, we look at what our genetic make-up can tell us about our ancestry.



Go way back with Mitochondrial DNA

A researcher at the lab at Lakehead University's Paleo-DNA laboratory.
METRO/HANDOUT

Who can benefit from mtDNA?

The answer may surprise you.

- It's not just living people who can have mtDNA testing done. The Paleo-DNA laboratory at Lakehead University is often tasked with testing degraded archeological material dug up at ancient burial sites around the world.
- Stephen Fratpietro, the lab's technical manager, said because mtDNA is the most plentiful type of DNA, it is usually all that's left to answer many of the questions archeologists have about their discoveries.
- "The mitochondrial DNA can tell us whether the two individuals found in the same burial are related maternally or not ... and we kind of tell roughly where these people originated from in the world," he explained.

Research. DNA serves as an important and interesting research tool in discovering where your ancestors were really from

SHANE GIBSON
Metro in Winnipeg

Digging through family records and talking to grandpa are good sources for starting a family tree. But to go a little further back — say 100,000 years — everything you want to know is already inside of you.

Well, it's in your mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA), to be more precise, and researchers at Lakehead University's Paleo-DNA laboratory in Thunder Bay, Ont., can use it to trace lineage way, way back.

"We deal with deep ancestry here," explained Stephen Fratpietro, the lab's technical manager.

"Basically your mitochondrial DNA can date back anywhere from 10,000 years ago to 120,000 years ago ... so you can find out things like if you came right from Africa or somewhere in Europe.

"We're talking about hundreds of generations."

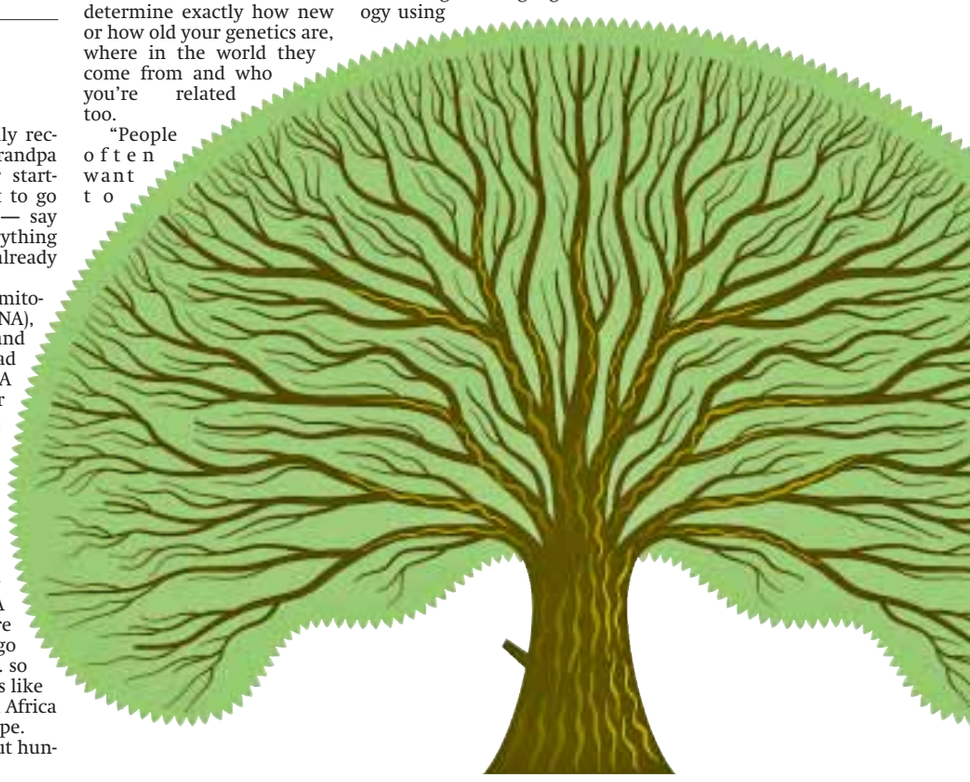
Because mtDNA is only passed down on the mother's side, Fratpietro explained it is perfect for DNA detectives like him to use for research.

By analyzing the mutations in mtDNA taken from a simple swab of the inside of the cheek, researchers can determine exactly how new or how old your genetics are, where in the world they come from and who you're related too.

"People often want to know where their genetics came from," said Fratpietro.

"If you're trying to figure out if you're related to a long lost relative, like a fifth cousin twice removed or something, you can try to establish a common maternal lineage through genealogy using DNA, and confirm whether you're actually related or not."

VISIT ANCIENTDNA.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY'S PALEO-DNA LABORATORY AND ITS ANCESTRY TESTING.



We tested three people to find out what their mtDNA would reveal. The results are in...

Subject 1: Female

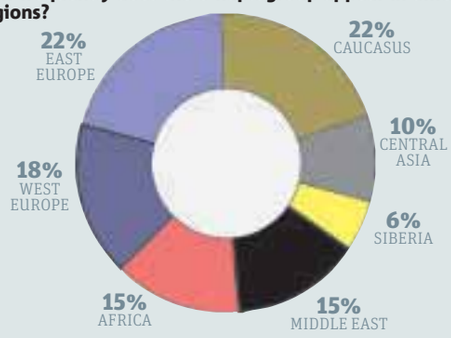
Why did you want to take part?

"I was adopted (OK, you've heard that before). I don't really know anything in terms of who created me or what my roots are — which clearly defines who I am today. Yes, I'm super curious! Culturally, this is also a factor. I'm half-Chinese and half-Caucasian (of some sort) and was adopted by Japanese people.

What the Paleo-DNA Laboratory discovered

Subject one belongs to haplogroup U3. Haplogroup U hypothetically first appeared about 55,000 to 60,000 years ago. Bryan Sykes, author of The Seven Daughters of Eve named the originator of this mitochondrial (mt) DNA haplogroup Ursula. Haplogroup U descended from Haplogroup R, which lived just after a second migration wave out of Africa, says the report. Haplogroup U has an extremely broad geographic distribution that ranges from Europe and North Africa to India and Central Asia due to numerous subsequent migrations. Although some members of haplogroup U migrated north into Scandinavia and others moved south into North Africa, most haplogroup U members stem from a group that moved northward out of the Near East, crossing the rugged Caucasus Mountains in southern Russia and moving on to the steppes of the Black Sea, then west to the present-day Baltic States and western Eurasia.

How frequently does the U haplogroup appear in different regions?



Subject 1's reaction

"Reading the results, I was very surprised to see that the majority of my DNA was not comprised as much from Asia as I initially thought. I've always thought I was a mix of just about everything but was surprised that it was mostly from eastern Europe and western Asia."

Subject 2: Female

Why did you want to take part?

"I was adopted when I was young and I know almost nothing about my biological ancestors. Knowing where I came from would give me a better understanding of who I am."

What the Paleo-DNA Laboratory discovered

Subject two belongs to haplogroup J and subject three belongs to J2. This means they share a maternal ancestor somewhere in the very distant past. Haplogroup J theoretically first appeared in the Near East about 50,000 years ago.

Sykes named the originator of this mitochondrial (mt) DNA haplogroup Jasmine. Haplogroup J derives from the haplogroup JT, which also gave rise to Haplogroup T. Haplogroup J is associated with the Neolithic expansion, the first use of agriculture, into Europe approximately 12,000 to 10,000 years ago.

Groups of hunter-gatherers and subsistence fishermen had been occupying much of Eurasia for tens of thousands of years when a group of modern humans living in the Fertile Crescent (present-day eastern Turkey and northern Syria) began domesticating the plants, nuts and seeds they had been foraging about 10,000 years ago, the report adds.

Haplogroup J's most recent common ancestor likely made their homeland around the Levant, a coastal region in what is now Lebanon. The highest frequency of the haplogroup is found in Arabia where around 25 per cent of the Bedouin and Yemeni belong to this haplogroup.

The J1 subclade accounts for almost 70 per cent of the total J population. The J1 subclade occurs throughout the European continent including Britain. The J2 subclade is 10,000 years older than subclade J1. The J2 subclade is more localized along the Mediterranean and especially the Balkan Peninsula. J2 population are actually quite diverse and range from the Mansi and other Ob River populations in Western Siberia (10 per cent of the J2 population) to populations of Northern Iran (five per cent of the J2 population), adds the report.

Subject 2's reaction

"Since I'm adopted, I really had no expectations about what would be discovered, but I certainly did not expect to have any common ancestry with another person taking part in this story! I found it incredible how far back they were able to look. It was surprising to me that I have Arabian ancestry. I'd definitely not have guessed that."

Subject 3's reaction

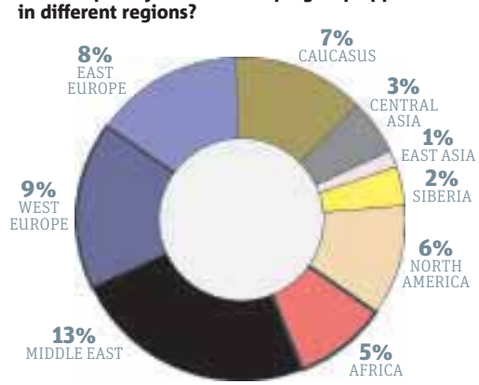
It's a bit of a surprise that those with my genetic makeup are found primarily in the Middle East, specifically in Arabia where around 25 per cent of the Bedouin and Yemeni population belong to my genetic group. Although Pakistan, where I was born, isn't that far off geographically speaking, it means somewhere down the line my ancestors migrated to South Asia. I wouldn't blame them. We got the best mangoes.

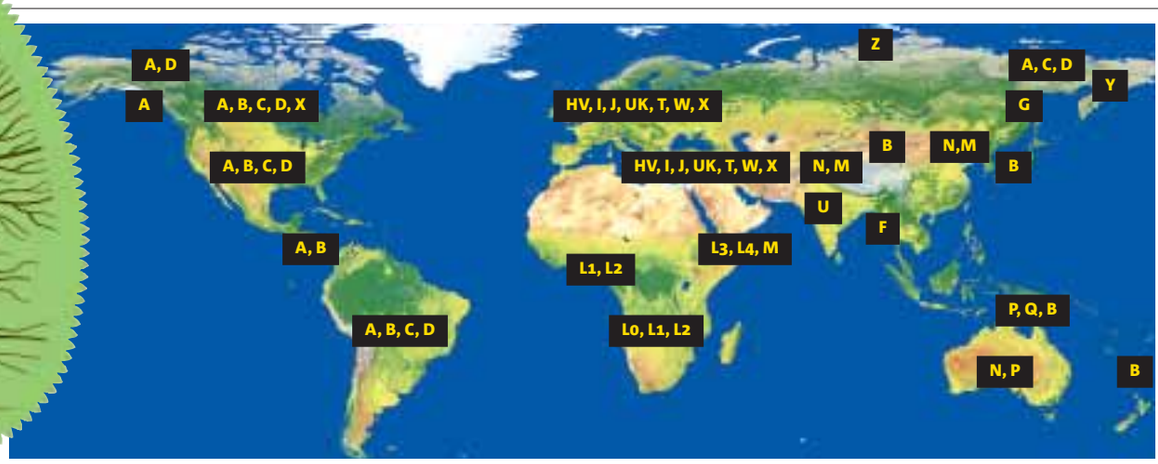
Subject 3: Male

Why did you want to take part?

"I was born in a part of the world where there were people coming in from various empires over various time periods. It's a jambalaya of Arabs, Indians, Iranians, Mongolians and a plethora of other people. I always wanted to figure out what mix I came from."

How frequently does the J haplogroup appear in different regions?





Where are they from? Distribution of major MtDNA haplogroups

What is a haplogroup?

- A haplogroup is a category that is used to group similar mtDNA profiles.
- These profiles have common mutations in their DNA that make them similar to each other but different to other haplogroups.
- Haplogroups are classified in capital letters and can have subgroups which are denoted with numbers. For example L1, L2, L3.

Exclusively online

If you missed part of Metro's Who Are You? series, visit metronews.ca/whoareyou for more fun facts about ancestry, including quizes, celebrity connections and information on how you can research your family tree.

Environment. Polar bears could be turning brown

How polar bears got their white coat remains a scientific mystery, but newly published research suggests a way they could turn brown again.

One of the study's authors says that's what might eventually happen to some groups of modern bears as climate change alters their habitat.

Beth Shapiro, one of the authors of the study, said as climate change reduces sea ice and changes the habitat of some polar bears, they are starting to look more like their southern cousins.

"We've seen that polar bears are hybridizing with brown bears now, at the edge of their range in Canada.

Polar bears could lose their white coats. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

"It means if we destroy all their habitat, and the only habitat that's left for polar bears looks like brown-bear habitat, then they're just going to hybridize with brown bears and turn into brown bears."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Missions to Mars

Europe, Russia sign space deal

The European Space Agency says it has signed an agreement with its Russian counterpart to work together toward two missions to Mars.

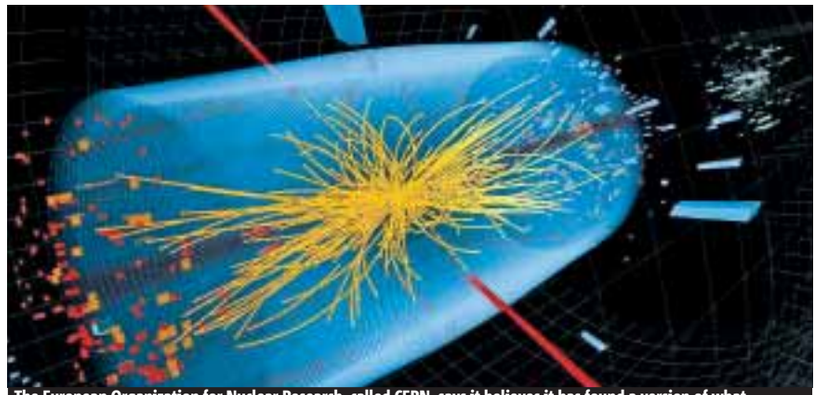
The partnership comes after NASA pulled out of the ExoMars program with ESA last year due to budget cuts.

ESA said in a statement on Thursday that it and Roscomos aim to launch missions in 2016 and 2018 to try to establish whether life ever existed on Mars.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Physicists close to proving existence of 'God particle'

Building block of universe. Discovery would be contender for Nobel Prize



The European Organization for Nuclear Research, called CERN, says it believes it has found a version of what is popularly referred to as the "God particle," which explains what gives matter its shape. CERN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The search is all but over for a subatomic particle that is considered a crucial building block of the universe.

Physicists said Thursday they believe they have discovered the subatomic particle predicted nearly a half-century ago, which will go a long way toward explaining what gives all matter in the universe size and shape.

The elusive particle, called a Higgs boson, was predicted in 1964 to help fill in our understanding of the creation of the universe, which many theorize occurred in a massive explosion known as the Big Bang. The particle was named for Peter Higgs, one of the physicists who proposed its existence, but it later became popularly known as the "God particle."

The discovery would be a strong contender for the Nobel Prize. Last July, scientists at the European Organization for Nuclear Research, or CERN, announced finding a particle they described as Higgs-like, but they stopped short of saying conclusively that it was the same particle or was some version of it.

Scientists have now finished going through the entire set of data.

"The preliminary results with the full 2012 data set are magnificent and to me it is clear that we are dealing with a Higgs boson, though we still have a long way to go to know what kind of Higgs boson it is," said Joe Incandela, a physicist who heads one of the two main teams at CERN.

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Samsung turns up the heat with new iPhone challenger

Smartphone wars. Galaxy S4 boasts larger screen and new ways to interact with device

Samsung Electronics is ratcheting up its rivalry with Apple with its new Galaxy S4 smartphone, which has a larger, sharper screen than its predecessor, the bestselling S III.

Samsung trumpeted the much-anticipated phone's arrival Thursday at an event in New York City accompanied by a live orchestra while an audience of thousands watched the theatrics unfold on a four-level stage. Summoning up a touch of Broadway, Samsung employed 17 actors to demonstrate the new phone's features in a series of scripted vignettes.

The Galaxy S4, which crams a five-inch screen into a body slightly smaller than the S III's, will go sale in the U.S. sometime between the end of April and the end of June.

People interact with the new Samsung Galaxy S4 on Thursday after it was revealed at an event in New York City. ALLISON JOYCE/GETTY IMAGES

All told, Samsung plans to offer the Galaxy S4 through 327 carriers in 155 countries, giving it a wider reach than Apple's iPhone 5.

Samsung didn't say what the phone will cost. JK Shin, the executive in charge of Samsung's mobile communications division, promised the money would be well spent for a "life companion" that will "improve the way most people live every day."

That bold promise set the tone for the kind of flashy presentation associated with the showmanship of Apple, the company that Samsung has been trying to upstage.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Galaxy S4 features

While the S4 doesn't have eye tracking, as rumoured, it does have the following:

- A five-inch screen, an upgraded processor, and a battery 20 per cent larger than the S III's. Samsung didn't say if that translates into a longer battery life.
- Several new technologies to help users interact with the phone. For instance, the screen now senses fingers hovering just above it, and some applications react.
- Users can control some other applications by making gestures in the air above the phone. In the browser, you can command the screen to scroll up by swiping from top to bottom a few inches from the phone.

Media. PKP steps aside as Quebecor CEO, but will still guide corporate strategy

The high-profile and sometimes controversial CEO of Quebecor Inc. is stepping down to have more personal time, but Pierre Karl Péladeau will still have influence over his company's corporate strategy.

Péladeau, known by his nickname PKP in French and English, will remain as chairman of one of its main subsidiaries, Quebecor Media. That division includes newspapers hit by weak advertising and recent layoffs and will require some of his attention to improve it.

Péladeau said he will provide advice and leadership on strategic projects "vital" to the media and telecom company, but also cited family and philanthropy as reasons for stepping down.

"Because one cannot be a part-time CEO, I have decided to retire from this position and devote my life to other pursuits," he told a conference call after the company released its quarterly results Thursday.

His executive duties will be taken over by Robert Dépatie, who has been president and CEO of Quebecor's cash-generating Videotron cable and Internet service since 2003.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

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COMPANY TATTOOED ON HIS SKIN

THE METRO LIST

Neil Morton
metronews.ca

1 Stompin' Tom memorial. The likes of Sylvia Tyson, Dave Bidini, Adrienne Clarkson and Ken Dryden gave a farewell to remember at his public memorial Wednesday at the Memorial Centre in Peterborough, Ont. — the city in which Connors received his Stompin' Tom moniker in 1967 during a King George Tavern gig. I was at the touching memorial, and it was one of those special patriotic nights I'll never forget.

2 New Pope = Twitter frenzy. Twitter went nuts Wednesday when white smoke billowed above the Vatican and Pope Francis was revealed. About 130 million tweets were sent after the announcement was made. Even the official papal twitter account, @pontifex, was reactivated that day, and the account has nearly two million followers.

3 Bachelor finale. It was the most dramatic Bachelor finale yet — or wait, it always is. Anyway, Sean was hot for teacher Lindsay but his heart was with Catherine, who accepted his proposal. The Bachelor has a spotty romantic track record, but this will work. It's the law of averages. Plus Sean and Catherine have decided to marry on TV. They can't let millions of viewers wearing rose-coloured glasses down.

4 Dare to Wear Gala. This charity fashion runway event by Toronto designers/couple Chris Tyrell and Jim Searle raises money in support of the Stephen Lewis Foundation in its fight against AIDS in Africa. It takes place March 22 and is the highlight of the Dare to Wear Love campaign and Toronto Fashion Week. Learn more at daretowearlove.com.

5 @Stats_Canada: The book. One of my fave parody Twitter accounts, @Stats_Canada, which tweets out awesome stats that aren't real stats about Canada but could be — e.g. "78% of Canadians are angry with someone, but will never show it" — is being adapted into a book. Stats Canada: Statire on a National Scale, by its anonymous creators, is out this Fall. Ninety-one percent of Canadians will buy it.

6 Small-town love/hate. The Twitter account @smalltwnprobs about life in a small town is a gem with tweets like, "You drove a tractor pretty much before you could walk," "You run into your parents while skipping class" and "People don't use turn signals cause you know where they're going." And it's becoming a big-city hit, with 100,000-plus followers.

7 Roll Up the Rim. I always love this Tim Hortons promo, and for this campaign and all future ones they do, I decided that instead of using the winning coffee and doughnuts for myself, I can do better. All coffee and doughnuts I win will go to the homeless. So far, I've won four. Winning has never felt better.

8 Real Hipsters of Vancouver. A casting call has gone out for a pilot episode for a reality show called Real Hipsters of Vancouver. Its creators envision showing that hipsters aren't just slackers wearing plaid and drinking bad beer, but are ambitious, creative people wearing plaid and drinking bad beer while following a dream.

9 Netflixed. A man shared his love for the video-streaming service by getting a Netflix tattoo in honour of it. When he tweeted his tat to them, the company responded by giving the guy a free year of service. I'm going to get a logo of every company I'm paying bills to tattooed on my skin , tweet them pictures of it and see how much I can save.

10 St. Patrick's Day. It's St. Paddy's Day this Sunday. Have a great one.

Follow The Metro List on Twitter @TheMetroList

ZOOM

Observatory makes galactic find

ALMA

Stars found to be older than once thought

The world's most powerful telescope (pictured at left) unveiled this week has already made its first discovery: Galaxies as bright as 40 trillion suns. The stars, seen by the Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array (ALMA) in Chile, started some 12.7 billion years ago when the universe was only one billion years old.

Experts already know that starbursts — bright periods of fast star creation — were more common in the early universe than today. But these groundbreaking images taken at an altitude of 5,000 metres on the remote Chajnantor Plateau in the Chilean Andes reveal that stellar birth occurred a full billion years earlier in the universe than previously thought.

METRO

This montage combines data from ALMA with images from the NASA/ESA Hubble Space Telescope, for five distant galaxies. The ALMA images, represented in red, show the distant background galaxies, being distorted by the gravitational lens effect produced by the galaxies in the foreground, depicted in the Hubble data in blue. The background galaxies appear warped into rings of light known as Einstein rings, which encircle the foreground galaxies. ALMA

Clickbait

ANDREW FIFIELD
andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

Bandcamp is an online store where fans can buy music directly from the artist, with the added bonus of allowing us to preview entire albums. It's a great model that has lured plenty of artists to set up shop there, including these Canadians:

Sean Nicolas Savage

This Montreal artist has a fairly robust selection of six albums to choose from, but none quite as dreamy as Flamingo. A light-as-a-feather collection of whispered ballads tailor-made for quiet mornings.

White Lung

The tags on White Lung's page may be a bit intimidating, but there's nothing to fear if you happen to be a fan of slithering guitars, pummelled drums and an irresistible frontwoman.

Bear Mountain

A sample-heavy dance party from Vancouver best enjoyed with a great pair of headphones and a sunny-day stroll.

Letters

Best and worst of St. Paddy's Day

Like any kid who grew up in a predominantly Irish home, I was dragged to Irish dance classes and forced to wear a green ribbon in my curly locks. Make no mistake, I'm Irish.

Although I've always been proud of my heritage, I've only grudgingly endured the annual celebratory displays of it, cringing at the way every year "Irish" becomes simultaneously synonymous with "adorable wee folk" and "public urination." Pot o' gold! Always after me Lucky Charms! Blah Blah blarney!

Because I love my family and I love my identity, in a way that has nothing to do with shamrock shakes and green beer or great throngs of people celebrating intoxication and cereal-box leprechauns. And I'm Irish enough to know that stupid stereotypes can Pog Mo Thoin!

According to legend, St. Patrick banished snakes from the rock and used a shamrock to teach the concept of the Holy Trinity. Maybe he can do something about the commercialization.

Anyway, Erin go braugh to ya.

Lisa Perry, Victoria, B.C.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU:
Send us your comments: londonletters@metronews.ca

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Synopsis

For years Burt Wonderstone (Steve Carell) and Anton Marvelton (Steve Buscemi) ruled the Las Vegas strip with a magic show that made Siegfried & Roy look understated. But their dominance of Sin City's showrooms disappears when a David Blaine type, guerrilla street magician Steve Gray (Jim Carrey) starts a turf war in town. His daring act makes the glitter and glitz of their show look well past its sell-by date. To stay relevant Wonderstone and Marvelton stage their own daring stunt, which just may be their grand finale.

- Richard: ●●○○○
- Mark: ●●●○○

Steve Carrell, Steve Buscemi and Olivia Wilde star in The Incredible Burt Wonderstone. HANDOUT

Where's the magic?

The Incredible Burt Wonderstone. A stellar cast and some funny moments aren't enough to keep an audience spellbound

Richard: Mark, I kept waiting for The Incredible Burt Wonderstone to pull a rabbit out of its hat and get really funny, and yet the rabbit never appeared. I fail to see how Jim Carrey, Steve Carrell, Steve Buscemi and Alan Arkin can share a marquee and have the movie fall so flat. Each has a potentially great comedic character and the premise should have been ripe for parody, but instead we get an only occasionally amusing movie. Was it a magical experience for you?

Mark: Actually, Richard, I smiled right through the movie, which I didn't expect because like all comedians, I hate magic. And I think the shots taken at both the overblown, wheezy Vegas magic productions, and the new, punk, Jackass-style magic were both very funny. The satire worked for me, the sentimentality less so. There are a lot of good showbiz jokes along the way, and I thought Jim Carrey was perfectly cast as the anything-for-a-thrill Chris Angel type. Richard, what did you think of Carrey?

RC: He was the highlight for me. No one plays controlled chaos like Carrey and I thought his increasingly self-aggrandizing behaviour was the best thing in the movie. It was Carrell that let me down. He's too likable an actor to pull off Wonderstone's egotistical, one-note womanizing act. The fake tan and mullet do some of the work, but it never feels real, and even less so when he falls into Woody Allen territory during his romantic redemption with a love interest 23 years younger. On top of that his gearshift down from narcissist to nice guy doesn't come off as anything but generic and predictable. Nothing magical about it.

MB: Absolutely right. And I felt the same way about Steve Buscemi. Olivia Wilde is just the affordable Megan Fox. But isn't it amazing how Alan Arkin can steal EVERY scene in EVERY movie he's in?

RC: I thought Buscemi and Wilde weren't really given enough to do to make any lasting impression. They play decent, nice people and in a movie like this, featuring raging egotists and insane illusionists, nice guys and gals do finish last. Arkin isn't given much to do either, although he does have a nice gag or two, but at least he remembered to pack his trademarked deadpan delivery in his bag of tricks.

MB: I didn't like the way the movie romanticized rootsy card tricks and sleight of hand as somehow more morally authentic than the glitzy Vegas magic. But I was still entertained enough to enjoy large parts of the movie, mostly in the first half.

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN

SCENE 2

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DUCING

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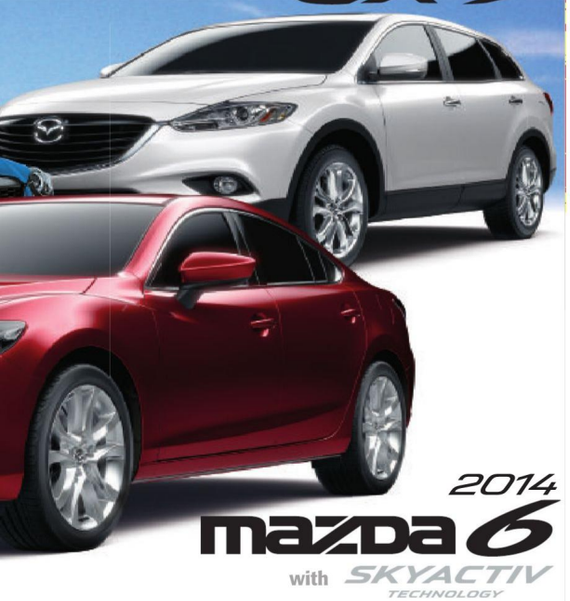

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Veronica Mars movie gets a $2M kick start

Dreaming big. Show's creator Rob Thomas and star Kristen Bell break Kickstarter records for raising money to make feature film

SAM CASTONE
Metro World News

How to make $2 million in one day: Step 1: Create a beloved TV series, called Veronica Mars, starring Kristen Bell as a sassy teen detective. Step 2: End the show in its prime, leaving fans craving a movie version. Step 3: Wait six years and put your movie idea on Kickstarter, the crowdfunding website, offering fans prizes for donating cash, used to complete said film. Step 4: Watch as the money rolls in — in less than 24 hours.

At press time, Bell and Mars creator Rob Thomas raised more than $2.5 million, with money still coming. The film is a go, and shoots this summer.

"Holy cow, what a day," Thomas wrote his fans. "As of 4 a.m. CT, we're just over $2.5 million. We couldn't be happier. We really couldn't. My wife says I'm insufferable, but she said that four days ago in anticipation of a day like today."

Kristen Bell, who played Veronica Mars. HANDOUT

The campaign, launched Wednesday, broke records. It was the fastest Kickstarter project to raise $1 million, much less $2 million. It's the first studio-backed project to raise this much money (Warner Brothers owns the show). "Kristen and I met with the Warner Bros. brass, and they agreed to allow us to take this shot," Thomas wrote on the Kickstarter page. "They were extremely cool about it, as a matter of fact. Their reaction was, if you can show there's enough fan interest to warrant a movie, we're on board. So this is it."

Donations ranged from $10 (for a PDF of the script) to $10,000 (for a speaking role).

Besides a Mars movie, the success also has wide implications for Hollywood. Fans can now demand entertainment, and fund it, and studios may be more willing to let creators have control. What's next? A proper Deadwood finale? A Freaks and Geeks reunion? A Firefly Christmas special?

No Arkin magic

"See, I don't give a damn anymore ... I'm going to die soon. It doesn't matter. I say anything that comes. The magician came over to me on the first day and said we have to work. I said get away from me. Don't get anywhere near me. I said for me to learn what I'm supposed to do in this movie would have taken me four years. I said it's not going to happen. Just keep away from me."

Alan Arkin on why he refused to learn any magic tricks for his role in The Incredible Burt Wonderstone. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Thriller

The Call

Director. Brad Anderson

Stars. Halle Berry, Abigail Breslin, Michael Eklund

When Casey comes to in the trunk of a car, the frantic teen does what most would — she calls 911. The call is the beginning of an intense cat-and-mouse game as dispatcher Jordan (Berry) tries to track Casey's abductor and save the girl's life. Like many Hollywood thrillers, the film loses its audience when it ventures from the acceptable to the ridiculous.
REGAN REID

Comedy

All in Good Time

Director. Nigel Cole

Stars. Amara Karan, Reece Ritchie

A situational comedy set in northern England, All in Good Time focuses on a young Asian couple forced to move in with the groom's overbearing parents instead of starting their life (and family) on an Indian honeymoon. While the simple story is at times rather trumped up, the mostly likeable cast and warm, playful situations eventually win the film's audience. STEVE GOW

Jennifer Garner. Star tells kids it's against the law to not wear sunscreen

Jennifer Garner tries not to look at reviews of the outfits she wears because, inevitably, someone isn't going to like it.

"It's not good for my self-esteem," she said Wednesday while in New York to open the Neutrogena Sun Summit.

The exception was after the Oscars last month. Garner's violet-coloured, custom-made Gucci gown was a winner — but that wasn't what she was looking for after husband Ben Affleck's film Argo won best picture. "I revelled in all those good pictures of him," she said.

Garner, a Neutrogena spokeswoman, practises what she preaches when it comes to sun safety. Her children make sure of it.

In her household, sunscreen is like seat belts: non-negotiable. Garner said while she was away Wednesday, the kids surely would remind their dad if he dropped them at school without their daily slathering.

"I think I once told my kids it was against the law not to wear sunscreen," she said.

Garner's appearance was followed by a panel discussion that included dermatologists, a NASA scientist and Mexican actress Sandra Echeverria.

An eager science student growing up, Garner, 40, said the conference's terminology — and warnings — about the ozone layer and ultraviolet rays isn't lost on her. She joked, though, that she wouldn't want to be quoted on exactly what the Helioplex formulation is or what vitamin C can do for the skin.

But she had her "a-ha" moment about sun damage in her 20s, when she was out with friends. "They all had big hats on and I didn't.

"Suddenly you look one day and the sun damage is there ... and then you see it increase exponentially."

She'll take little credit for that Oscar night look — calling it a team effort led by Rachel Zoe. The partnership between Zoe and Garner goes back more than a decade, with Garner as the stylist's first big Hollywood client.

"She knows I'm not going to wear super-crazy fashion," said Garner. Where Garner leans toward comfort, Zoe goes for fancy — and "she usually wins."

Garner's outfit Wednesday — an Oscar de la Renta sheath dress and pointy-toe pumps in black patent leather — hit the right balance. In her casual style, Garner, wearing a smile, described the look as "just a little purple Oscar number."
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck at the Oscars. GETTY IMAGES

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THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI. MAR.15 TO THURS. MAR. 21. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

London

Hyland Cinema
240 Wharncliffe Road South, 519-913-0313

All in Good Time (PG) Fri 7 Sat 9:15 Sun 3:45 Mon 4 Tue 9:15 Wed 4 Thu 7
Life of Pi (PG) Fri-Sat 4 Sun 8:30 Mon 6:45 Tue 4 Wed 6:45 Thu 1
Lincoln (PG) Fri 1-8:45 Sat 1-6:30 Sun 1-5:45 Mon 1-9:05 Tue 1-6:30 Wed 1-9:05 Thu 4-8:45

Rainbow Cinemas London
355 Wellington St., 519-434-3073

21 and Over (14A) Fri-Tue 3:45-9:45 Wed 9:45 Thu 3:45-9:45
The Call (14A) Fri-Thu 1:25-3:35-7:10-9:20
Escape From Planet Earth (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:25
Identity Thief (14A) Fri-Thu 7:20-9:40
The Incredible Burt Wonderstone (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:05-3:30-7:15-9:35
Jack the Giant Slayer (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 1-3:40-6:55-9:25
Oz the Great and Powerful (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:55-3:45-7-9:45
Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Fri-Sat 1:20-3:50-6:50-9:30 Sun 3:50-6:50-9:30 Mon-Thu 1:20-3:50-6:50-9:30
Snitch (PG) Fri-Tue 1:15-7:05 Thu 1:15-7:05

Western Film
Room 340, UCC Building, Argo (14A) Fri-Thu 9:50

Lincoln (PG) Fri 7 Sat-Sun 1-3:50-7 Mon-Thu 7

Wellington 8 Cinemas
983 Wellington Rd. S, 519-685-2529

21 and Over (14A) Fri 7:20-9:40 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:20-7:20-9:40 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:10
The Call (14A) Fri-Sun 1:40-4:15-7:15-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:45-8:20
Escape From Planet Earth (PG) Sat-Sun 1-3:50
Identity Thief (14A) Fri-Sun 12:50-3:30-6:40-9:25 Mon-Thu 5:10-7:50
The Incredible Burt Wonderstone (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 1:10-3:40-7-9:35 No Passes Mon-Thu 5:30-8
Jack the Giant Slayer (PG) Fri-Sun 1:20
Jack the Giant Slayer 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 4-6:50-9:30 Mon-Thu 5:20-8
Oz the Great and Powerful (PG) Fri-Sun 12:45-9:45 Mon-Thu 8:15
Oz the Great and Powerful 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 3:45-6:45 Mon-Thu 5:15
Safe Haven (PG) Fri-Sun 6:30-9:15 Mon-Thu 5-7:40
Snitch (PG) Fri 7:10-9:55 Sat-Sun 1:15-4:10-7:10-9:55 Mon-Thu 5:35-8:25
Toonie Matinee - Hotel Transylvania (STC) Fri 1:30-4:20
Toonie Matinee - Parental Guidance (STC) Fri 1:15-4:10
Toonie Matinee - Rise of The Guardians (STC) Fri 1-3:50

Cineplex Odeon Westmount & VIP Cinemas
755 Wonderland Road South, 519-474-2796

Escape From Planet Earth (PG) Fri 12:30 Sat 12:10 Sun 12:30
Escape From Planet Earth 3D (PG) Fri 2:45-4:35 Sat 1:45-4:25 Sun 2:45-4:35 Tue 4:40
Identity Thief (14A) Fri 1:40-4:30-7:15-10:10 Sat 11:55-2:35-5:10-7:50-10:35 Sun 1:40-4:30-7:15-10:10 Mon 6:45-9:25 Tue 4-7:20-10:10 Wed 1:15-6:40-9:25 Thu 6:40-9:25 Fri 1-3:45-7-9:45 Sat 4:25-7:10-9:50 Sun 1-3:45-7-9:45 Mon 7:15 Tue 3:45-7-9:45 Wed 7:15
The Incredible Burt Wonderstone (PG) No Passes Fri 12:30-3-5:30-8-10:35 No Passes Sat 12-2:30-5:05-7:40-10:20 No Passes Sun 12:30-3-5:30-8-10:35 No Passes Mon 7-9:30 No Passes Tue 4:30-7:10-9:55 No Passes Wed 1:25-7-9:30 No Passes Thu 7-9:30 No Passes Fri 1:30-4:15-6:30-9:15 No Passes Sat 1:20-4-6:40-9:20 No Passes Sun 1:30-4:15-6:30-9:15 No Passes Mon 7:45 No Passes Tue 4:15-6:30-9:15 No Passes Wed-Thu 7:45 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Jack the Giant Slayer 3D (PG) Fri 1:25-5:05-7:50-10:40 Sat 2:25-5:10-7:55-10:40 Sun 1:25-5:05-7:50-10:40 Mon 7:20-10:05 Tue 4:50-7:40-10:25 Wed-Thu 7:25-10:10 Fri 2-4:45-7:30-10:10 Sat 12:50-4:45-7:35-10:15 Sun 2-4:45-7:30-10:10 Mon 8:15 Tue 4:45-7:30-10:10 Wed-Thu 8:15
The Metropolitan Opera: Francesca da Rimini Live (STC) Sat 12 Sat 12
The Metropolitan Opera: Maria Stuarda Encore (STC) Mon 6:30
National Theatre Live: People (STC) Thu 7
Oz the Great and Powerful (PG) No Passes Fri 12:35-3:35 No Passes Sat 12:30-3:35 No Passes Sun 12:35-3:35 No Passes Tue 3:30 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Oz the Great and Powerful 3D (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 1:15-4:20-6:40-7:25-9:45-10:30 No Passes Mon 6:35-7:10-9:40-10:10 No Passes Tue 4:20-6:40-7:30-9:45-10:30 No Passes Wed 1:30-6:35-7:10-9:40-10:10 No Passes Thu 6:35-7:10-9:40-10:10

Dead Man Down. HANDOUT

Quartet (PG) Fri 1-3:45-6:30-9:15 Sat 4:15-6:30-9:15 Sun 1-3:45-6:30-9:15 Mon 6:50-9:20 Tue 3:40-6:30-9:15 Wed 1:35-6:50-9:20 Thu 6:50-9:20
Safe Haven (PG) Fri 7-10 Sat 7:10-10 Sun 7-10 Mon 10:10 Tue 7-10 Wed 1:10-7:20-10:05 Thu 7:20-10:05
Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Fri 12:50-3:55-6:50-9:55 Sat 12:20-3:20-6:50-9:55 Sun 12:50-3:55-6:50-9:55 Mon 6:30-9:20 Tue 3:50-6:50-9:50 Wed 1:20-6:30-9:20 Thu 6:30-9:20

SilverCity London
1680 Richmond St, 519-673-4125

21 and Over (14A) Fri-Sat 1:15-3:35-5:50-8:15-10:35 Sun 12:40-3:05-5:20-7:40-10 Mon-Thu 12:50-3:05-5:20-7:40-10
The Call (14A) No Passes Fri 12:50-3:15-5:35-8:05-10:35 No Passes Sat 1-3:15-5:35-8:05-10:35 No Passes Sun 12:35-3-5:30-8-10:20 No Passes Mon-Tue 1:35-4:35-7:35-10:20 No Passes Wed 4:35-7:35-10:20 No Passes Thu 1:35-4:35-7:35-10:20 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Dead Man Down (14A) Fri 1:40-4:30-7:25-10:15 Sat 4:40-7:25-10:15 Sun 1:40-4:30-7:25-10:10 Mon-Wed 1:40-4:40-7:25-10:10 Thu 1:10-3:55-10:30
Escape From Planet Earth (PG) Fri 12:30-1:10 Sat-Sun 12:15 Mon-Thu 1:45
Escape From Planet Earth 3D (PG) Fri 3:20-5:30 Sat 11:15-2:35-5 Sun 2:35-5:10 Mon-Thu 4:10
A Good Day to Die Hard (14A) Fri 12:35-2:50-5:25-7:50-10:30 Sat-Sun 12:20-2:45-5:20-7:50-10:30 Mon-Thu 1:20-4:05-7-9:50
Identity Thief (14A) Fri 2:35-5:15-8-10:40 Sat 12-2:35-5:15-8-10:50 Sun-Thu 12:45-3:50-7:05-10
The Incredible Burt Wonderstone (PG) No Passes Fri 12:40-3:10-5:40-8:10-10:50 No Passes Sat 11:50-2:20-4:55-7:50-10:40 No Passes Sun 12:25-2:50-5:25-7:55-10:20 No Passes Mon-Thu 2-4:55-7:40-10:20
The Indian in the Cupboard (STC) Sat 11
Jack the Giant Slayer 3D (PG) Fri 2:15-4:55-7:45-10:25 Sat 11:30-2:15-4:55-7:45-10:25 Sun 2:15-4:55-7:45-10:25 Mon-Thu 2:15-4:50-7:45-10:25
Life of Pi 3D (PG) Fri-Sat 1:25-4:20-7:10-10:05 Sun 1:25-4:25-7:10-10:05 Mon-Thu 1:25-4:15-7:10-10:05
Madoka Magica Part 2: Eternal (STC) Wed 7:30
The Metropolitan Opera: Francesca da Rimini Live (STC) Sat 12
National Theatre Live: People (STC) Thu 7
Oz the Great and Powerful (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:30-3:35-6:50-9:55 No Passes Mon 12:45-3:35-6:50-9:55 No Passes Tue 12:45-3:35-6:50-9:50 No Passes Wed 4:05-7:15-10:15 No Passes Thu 12:45-3:35-6:50-9:55 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Oz the Great and Powerful 3D (PG) No Passes Fri-Mon 1-4:05-7:15-10:20 No Passes Tue 1-4:05-7:15-10:15 No Passes Wed 12:45-3:35-6:50-9:55 No Passes Thu 1-4:05-7:15-10:15
Oz the Great and Powerful: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) No Passes Fri-Sat 1:30-4:35-7:40-10:45 No Passes Sun-Thu 1:15-4:20-7:30-10:30
Safe Haven (PG) Fri 7:30-10:10 Sat-Sun 7:20-10:10 Mon-Tue 7:15-10:10 Wed 10:10 Thu 7:15-10:10

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Bublé has much bigger fish to fry

Michael Bublé has sold millions of albums, but as he readies the release of his newest project, he's less concerned with his future sales, thanks to his wife's pregnancy.

"I'm nervous and excited, and truly I think it's given me great perspective," the singer said at the music video shoot for his new single, It's a Beautiful Day.

"I used to worry about how the single would do and how the record would sell. And the truth is, I love this record. I'm so proud of it. But, at the end of the day, if it sells 10 million or 10 copies, I've got bigger fish to fry," he continued. "I've got a wife and a kid I love very much."

Bublé married Argentine actress Luisana Lopilato in 2011. They announced in January they're expecting their first child.

Michael Bublé has a new baby and a new album on the way. GETTY IMAGES

Most of Bublé's albums have reached multi-platinum status, and his last three releases have hit number one on the Billboard 200 albums chart, including the triple platinum Christmas, the second bestselling album of 2011 behind Adele's 21.

His new album, To Be Loved, will be released April 23. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Proto-punks to proto-supergroup to ... protozoa?

SOUND CHECK
Alan Cross
scene@metronews.ca

Iggy Pop, Sound City Players and Marine Bugs are highlighted in this week's Sound Check

Burn/Iggy and the Stooges

They were making punk rock a decade before anyone knew what to call it. The surviving Stooges return in April with just their fifth album in 46 years.

Mantra/Sound City Players

One of my favourite parts of Dave Grohl's Sound City documentary was watching him, Josh Homme and Trent Reznor write a song together in the studio. This is the final result.

Blues for Elle/Some little marine microbes

They've dubbed the sound "microbial bebop." It's surprisingly like modern jazz.

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A tale of two Snoops: he'll always be a Dogg deep down, even as a Lion

Reincarnated. Hip hop star talks about why he put down the Dogg and responds to critics who say the move is just a gimmick

Snoop Lion won't fire back at critics who say his backing of the Rastafari movement is simply another gimmick from one of hip hop's savviest self-marketers. But Snoop Dogg will.

Reggae pioneer Bunny Wailer is the most notable skeptic. Wailer bestowed the Lion name on Snoop, but has since repeatedly questioned the 41-year-old rapper's intentions and commitment to Rasta ideology.

Asked to respond, Snoop's face registered a flash of malice followed by a devilish smile: "If I was Snoop Dogg: '(Expletive) Bunny Wailer.' But I'm Snoop Lion right now, so I'm chilling," he said.

Snoop Lion poses for a portrait at the Westlake Recording Studios in Los Angeles. JORDAN STRAUSS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

He is using the name to release a reggae- and dancehall-focused album, Reincarnated. Produced by Major Lazer — which includes DJ-producer Diplo — it features guests ranging from Chris Brown and Drake to Jamaica's Mr. Vegas and Mavado.

While promoting an accompanying documentary that tracks his trip to Jamaica and exploration of Rasta culture, Snoop makes it clear that his Lion persona is less a drastic transformation than part of ongoing personal growth.

With his film in limited release this week and his album due out April 23, the performer talked about his identity issues, his effort to stay positive and religion.

Evolution — Snoop-style

"To me, the Lion is the growth of Snoop Dogg — me growing into the next phase of my musical career."

Snoop Lion
On why he dropped the Dogg.

What does Snoop Lion mean to you? In the movie we see Bunny Wailer give you the name because he said he didn't want to call you a dog. That was his take on it.
I don't know what that take was because I'm going to always be Snoop Dogg. I can't throw that person away and get rid of him. To me, the Lion is the growth of Snoop Dogg — me growing into the next phase of my musical career, the next phase of my life.

In interviews since the film was made, Bunny has been skeptical of you. What's your take on his criticism?
I've done nothing but what I said I was going to do: go to Jamaica, make a great record, intertwine with some people, build on some relationships and come back and bring something back to the community.

What has been religion's place in your life up until now — and how does Rastafari fit in?
As a kid, I was pushed into the Baptist church, taught that way. As an adult, I was able to seek out information on my own to find out that the Muslim religion, Rastafari, Baptist, Christian — that they all the same. They all God-fearing people and love is love. ... It's more based on life and a way of life and liberty as opposed to religion. Because religion is so false, because it's so past tense and written by someone who is not here.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Game of Thrones' tough newcomer

Rose Leslie. Scottish actress plays Ygritte, the strong, conniving wildling who builds an unlikely relationship with Jon Snow in season three

She had no previous experience wielding weapons or marching through knee-deep snow across frigid glaciers, but 26-year-old Scottish actress Rose Leslie said it felt pretty natural stepping into the role of Ygritte on Game of Thrones.

The cutthroat competition she's used to as an actress doesn't compare to the conniving back-stabbing that's ever-present in George R. R. Martin's A Song of Ice and Fire fantasy books, which the show is based on, but Leslie nevertheless felt a kinship with her tough-as-nails character.

"As a young actor kind of starting off in an industry that is so difficult and competitive, you've got to be strong, there's got to be an element of ambition there and you've got to be tough and determined in your own way," says Leslie.

The actress has played strong female characters before — she was the ambitious housemaid Gwen Dawson in the first season of Downton Abbey.

The character was determined to rise above her station in life and become a secretary.

"What stuck with me with Ygritte was how phenomenally independent and fierce she is and she's a strong, determined young lady in control with every situation.

"So I felt (Ygritte). Of course, you step it up once you do become the character."

"It wasn't difficult stepping into that role, where she is so dominant and powerful and she knows what she wants."

Brace yourself

Leslie was mostly tight-lipped about the third season (premiering March 31 on HBO Canada) but here's a hint or two on what to expect.

- Ygritte is briefly seen in an official trailer sporting a bow and arrow and in a blink-and-you'll-miss-it peek at a sex scene.
- "We see the show's beloved characters get tested and pushed to the extreme and I think viewers are going to be pleasantly surprised, but ultimately shocked as well," Leslie says. ""There's more danger and I think the momentum is upped."

Ygritte emerged as one of the most compelling new characters of the show's second season, introduced when she is captured by Jon Snow and other members of the Night's Watch.

She's unflinchingly ready for death, but when Jon Snow doesn't have the stomach to kill her, she plots how to turn the tables, bides her time, and eventually does go from captive to captor.

Leslie appreciated how multi-dimensional the character is and enjoyed how her Ygritte develops an unlikely relationship with Jon Snow.

"She has a flip side ... she doesn't take herself too seriously and she can be playful and bounce that off her ruthlessness," says Leslie.

"But dominantly she is a killer, she is brutal and has been brought up in these harsh surroundings and therefore is harsh and brutal herself."

Leslie was in Toronto to launch a travelling Game of Thrones exhibit of costumes and props from the show.

It runs at the Design Exchange through Saturday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Actress Rose Leslie plays Ygritte on Game of Thrones. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gwyneth Paltrow. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Paltrow struggling to get family on gluten-free diet

Gwyneth Paltrow is discovering that getting her family on a new low-carb, gluten-free diet isn't exactly a painless endeavor.

"Sometimes when my family is not eating pasta, bread or processed grains like white rice, we're left with that specific hunger that comes with avoiding carbs," she says in her new cookbook.

But the pain is worth it, she insists.

"Every single nutritionist, doctor and health-conscious person I have ever come across … seems to concur that (gluten) is tough on the system and many of us are at best intolerant of it and at worst allergic to it," she writes.

Geri Halliwell

Geri Halliwell tries being one of the people

Terrible London traffic has driven Spice Girl Geri Halliwell underground, as the singer ventured onto public transportation for the first time in nearly two decades this week.

"Forgive me for being a brat," she tweeted about the experience.

"After 17 years and yesterday's two hours of traffic, let's save time and money — the tube!"

Halliwell also posted photos of herself on the platform and train.

Her final judgment on the experience?

"Not so bad!"

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Miley's hard partying ways find her back on market?

The breakup rumours about Miley Cyrus and Liam Hemsworth are reaching a fever pitch, with the New York Post claiming that the couple's engagement is officially off.

"Miley and Liam are done — it's over," a source tells the newspaper.

"She likes to party really hard and can be pretty wild. It became a problem for him."

But Cyrus is reportedly still holding out hope of a reconciliation.

"They do fight, but she is crazy about Liam," another source says, adding that Cyrus "isn't ready to accept it might be over for good."

Quote

"Miley and Liam are done — it's over"

Source
Speaking to New York Post

Anna Kendrick

Anna Kendrick ends her relationship

Anna Kendrick has reportedly ended her four-year relationship with her Scott Pilgrim vs. the World director Edgar Wright, according to Us Weekly.

"She's single," a source says. "It was done a little while ago."

In her new life as a single gal, Kendrick has been ruminating about what life would be like on reality TV.

"If I were a contestant on The Bachelor, I'd just end up falling in love with the weird sound guy and making things uncomfortable for everyone," she joked recently on Twitter.

"To all the people joking about becoming sound guys, you should also know they put mics in actresses' cleavage and packs on (their) inner thighs. Think about it."

Helen Mirren

Helen Mirren having pup problems

Helen Mirren has been having trouble with one of her canine co-stars in her new West End play, The Audience, leading to seven-year-old corgi Lizzy getting the axe, according to the Telegraph.

The dog, who appeared as one of Queen Elizabeth's pets in the play, failed to hit her cues on 16 separate occasions before producers decided to replace her.

"She was excited the first three times," director Stephen Daldry tells the newspaper. "And then I think she decided she didn't want to be an actress anymore. She decided to retire."

Twitter

@IJasonAlexander
Ok, not trying to be cute, but the new Pope -- he looks like my Uncle Abe --- a Jew! So, Mazel Tov, Pope.

@mradamscott
Ralph Macchio is now the same age Pat Morita was when they shot The Karate Kid. Goodnight!

@GarryShandling
Don't worry - by the time I die technology will be so advanced you'll still be able to tweet me. And follow.

Liquid Assets

Drinking like a leprechaun

LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
liquidassets@eastlink.ca

For a country not much larger than New Brunswick, Ireland sure has created an international reputation for itself. Whether music, literature, cuisine, bar culture and, of course, liquids, its fame is undeniable.

Though I'm only one quarter Irish, that part of me takes over as the hours grow closer to St. Patrick's Day. That means this weekend I'll be eating and drinking like a giant leprechaun. Irish stew is a personal favourite. And while a seductive pint of Guinness is a match made in heaven, you don't have to stick to the Emerald Isle when it comes to a beverage pairing.

Red wines like meat, with any medium-bodied version made from malbec making a tasty partner. On the white side, think sauvignon blanc or, if you want to get adventurous, a white grüner veltliner from Austria. A unique beer alternative with an Irish theme is Innis & Gunn Irish Whiskey Cask Stout (330 ml, $3.49 - $4.49). It's a Scottish brew aged in barrels previously filled with Irish Whiskey. Dark and chocolaty, it brings together the flavours of both cultures. Sláinte! **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**

This recipe serves six to eight. PRIME PUBS

Hearty taste of Ireland

Irish Lamb Stew. The perfect balance of chewy dumplings and rich morsels of lamb, this dish is a great way to celebrate St. Paddy's

Who can resist a hearty stew with lamb, potatoes, sweet peas, carrots, onions, celery and rosemary, simmered in Kilkenny Irish Cream Ale and topped with homemade dumplings?

Be sure to double the recipe for this hearty Irish favourite as you will definitely want to enjoy leftovers after the St. Patrick's Day celebrations.

1. Heat oil in Dutch oven on medium high heat. Then season lamb with salt and pepper. Add to Dutch oven and sear 3 mins. until brown on all sides. Add onions, carrots and celery. Sauté for 30 seconds. Add garlic and sauté for additional 30 seconds. Add beef stock and Kilkenny. Cover and simmer for 40 mins.

2. Add potatoes and simmer for another 20 minutes or until lamb is tender. When lamb is tender, add rosemary.

3. Meanwhile to make dumplings, in bowl place flour, baking powder and salt and mix together. Add milk and oil to dry ingredients. Mix until just combined. Using tablespoon, add to stew, 10 at a time. Cook for 10 to 12 minutes or until dumplings are cooked. Remove dumplings with a slotted spoon and place on pan lined with parchment paper.

4. Add peas to stew and mix in. Cook for 5 minutes. Serve stew in large crock. Top each portion with 2 to 3 dumplings and sprinkle with chopped parsley.

CHEF BRYAN JUREK (TRY THIS RECIPE ON THE IRISH MENU OF ALL MEMBERS OF PRIME PUBS FAMILY OF PREMIUM PUBS, INCLUDING FIONN MACCOOL'S AND D'ARCY MCGEE'S FROM MARCH 4 UNTIL APRIL 28)

Ingredients

Lamb Stew
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) olive oil
- 1 tsp (5 ml) sea salt
- 1/2 tsp (2.5 ml) black pepper
- 2 lbs (900 g) boneless lamb shoulder, outside fat removed, diced into 1-inch pieces
- 2 medium onions, diced in 1/2-inch pieces
- 3 medium carrots, diced into 1/2-inch pieces
- 1 cup (225 ml) celery, diced into 1/2-inch pieces
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 5 cups (1.25 l) beef stock
- 2/3 cup (160 ml) Kilkenny beer
- 2 large Yukon Gold potatoes, diced into 1/2-inch pieces
- 1 stalk rosemary
- 20 dumplings
- 1-1/2 cup (350 ml) peas
- Parsley, chopped for garnish

Dumplings
- 1-1/4 cup (285 ml) flour
- 1 tsp (5 ml) baking powder
- 3/4 tsp (3.5 ml) salt
- 1-1/4 cup (285 ml) milk
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) olive oil

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Have a few gaps in your schedule you're looking to fill?
Whether you're hoping to dance, drink or just relax, check out these hot upcoming events.

MIX OF SIX
Julian Uzielli
london@metronews.ca

March break madness

Get your kids (or yourself) some fun and exercise at Flagswipe Paintball. One of London's top paintball fields, Flagswipe (529 Phillip St.) has discounted their prices for March break — entry is $10, which includes gear rental, and paint is $7 for 100 paintballs. The March break madness event runs until Sunday and after that admission goes back up to $30. The deal is available for the indoor field between 12 to 6 p.m. Photo courtesy of Nick Elie.

A good (looking) cause

At Western, everyday is a fashion show. But Saturday night, students will be hitting the runway for real in Ontario's biggest student-run fashion show and donating the proceeds to the Children's Health Foundation. The annual event has raised more than $100,000 for CHF over the past nine years. Prestige will be held at Centennial Hall. Tickets are $30, which includes admission to the after-party at London Tap House. To buy, email cfs.mediadirector@gmail.com or call 519-630-4948. Photo courtesy of Celine Cho.

The art of spring

Don't let the flurries get you down. Spring is right around the corner, and with it comes Aeolian Hall's spring art show. Opening Wednesday, the show features work from six local artists in a variety of media. Artists Albert Adilli, Patti Fisher, Gilles Gauvin, Jiana, Joanne Vegso and Pam Wilkinson will all be at Wednesday's free opening reception. The work will be on display and up for sale until May 24, with 30 per cent of proceeds going to the Aeolian Hall Musical Arts Association. Pictured: Boat at Sunrise by Gilles Gauvin, photo.

The Beatles Experience

The Beatles are long gone, but it will be longer still until they are forgotten — especially while acts like RAIN are still around. Billed as "the next best thing to seeing The Beatles," the world-renowned tribute band will be at Budweiser Gardens March 21. The group's performances span the whole Beatles discography, and even some songs that the band themselves never played live. Before you know it you'll be twisting and shouting as if it were the real thing. Tickets start at $50 at budweisergardens.com. Photo courtesy of Chris Campbell.

Mom's the Word

One of the most popular plays in parenthood is back for another round next week at The Grand Theatre. Mom's the Word: For Crying Out Loud tells stories of motherhood that have had audiences around the world in stitches. Mothers, fathers and kids alike will all appreciate the humour in these vignettes of the trials of everyday family life. The play opens Tuesday and runs until April 6. Tickets start at $25.99. For more information and to buy tickets go to grandtheatre.com. Image courtesy of Julie Bell.

Juno nominees at the Music Hall

There will be a lot of talented people on stage at the London Music Hall on Tuesday when two Juno-nominated acts take the stage. Cold Specks (pictured) is up for Breakthrough Artist of the Year after their debut album made the Polaris shortlist, and Stars have been nominated for Alternative Album of the Year for their album The North. It's a rare opportunity to see two nominees on one stage the month before the awards ceremony — don't pass it up. Tickets are $25 from ticketmaster.ca and the doors open at 7 p.m. Photo by Autumn de Wilde.

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Scott Moir, 25, of Ilderton, blows a kiss to the hometown crowd while waiting for results following a performance with Tessa Virtue, 23, of London, in Thursday's ice-dancing short dance during the 2013 World Figure Skating Championships at Budweiser Gardens. JOHN MATISZ/METRO

Virtue-Moir in hole after short dance

World Figure Skating Championships. Local pair trail U.S. rivals by nearly 4 points ahead of Saturday's free dance

Canada's Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir find themselves with considerable ground to make up in their quest for a second straight world ice-dance title.

The Olympic gold medallists scored 73.87 points in their short dance Thursday, and trail American rivals Meryl Davis and Charlie White by nearly four points heading into Saturday's free dance.

Virtue, from London, and Moir, from Ilderton, had one moment when they were noticeably out of synch in their skate to The Waltz Goes On, by actor Anthony Hopkins.

Davis and White scored 77.12. Russians Ekaterina Bobrova and Dmitri Soloviev were third with 70.05.

Canadian teammates Kaitlyn Weaver and Andrew Poje finished sixth with a season's-best score of 67.54 — despite being off the ice for a good chunk of the last three months.

Weaver broke her fibula when she crashed into the boards on Dec. 14, and only returned to the ice Feb. 7.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Women's short program

Osmond impresses in Worlds debut

A year ago, Kaetlyn Osmond was still trying to perfect all of her triple jumps.

Now she's a step away from the podium at the World Figure Skating Championships.

Kaetlyn Osmond
GETTY IMAGES

"It is a little shocking," the 17-year-old Canadian said after finishing fourth in Thursday's short program. "It's just unbelievable to see how much progress I've made so fast."

She performed a lively mambo number and her enthusiasm was infectious.

"I got on the ice and felt so perfect," Osmond said. "The less I think, the better it is, so I went into every jump saying, 'No brain, no brain.' It's working."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Upcoming events

World Figure Skating Championship at Budweiser Gardens.

- **Friday.** Pairs free program, 11:55 a.m.
  Men's free program & victory ceremony, 5:45 p.m.
- **Saturday.** Ice-dance free program & victory ceremony, 2:30 p.m.
  Ladies free program & victory ceremony, 7 p.m.
- **Sunday.** Exhibition gala, 2 p.m. Start times are subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, visit worlds2013.ca.

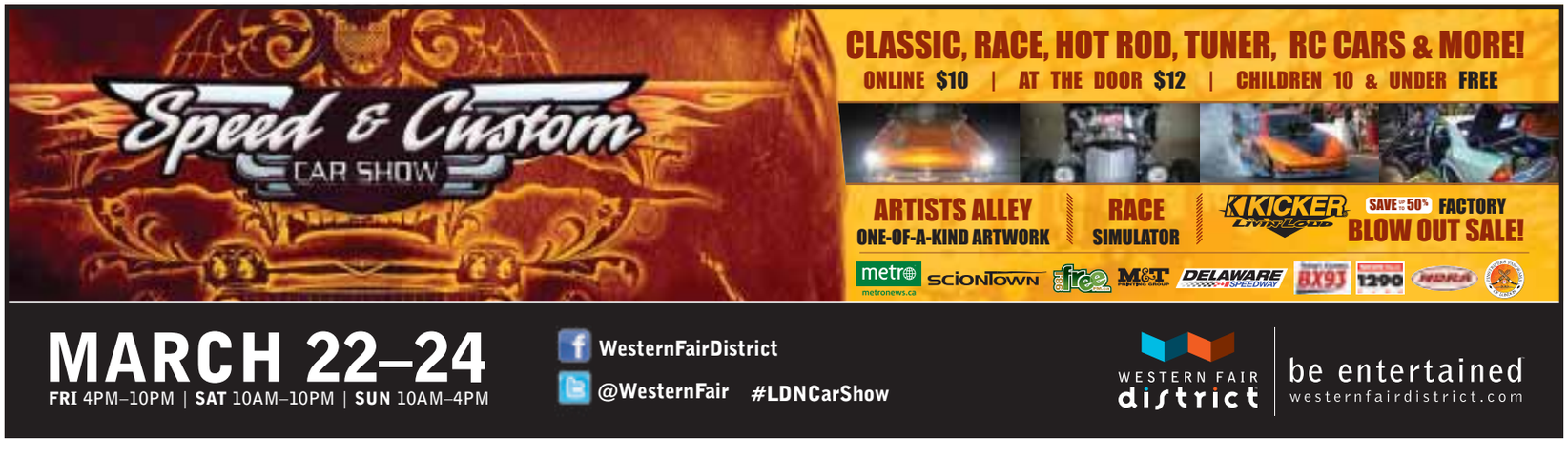

Figure skating. U.S.'s Max Aaron holds his own after 'hockey hit' crash

Max Aaron's time as a hockey player came in handy.

The U.S. champion knocked his head against the boards when he fell on a quadruple jump attempt during warm-ups for Wednesday night's short program at the World Figure Skating Championships.

The crowd gasped, but Aaron got up with a smile and gave fans sitting in the front row a thumb's-up.

"It was kind of a shock. It was like a little hockey hit," said Aaron, who played bantam and midget elite hockey. "But it made me focus, really narrow in, and I think I did that today."

Aaron held his own in his worlds debut, skating one of the few clean programs of the night and finishing a respectable eighth (78.20 points).

But the Americans will have a tough time regaining a third spot for the Sochi Olympics after Ross Miner finished 14th after falling on his quadruple salchow. Aaron and Miner need to finish with a combined placement of 13 or better — fifth and eighth, for example — to earn three spots for Sochi.

Max Aaron of the U.S. skates in the men's short program.
DAVE SANDFORD/GETTY IMAGES

Aaron nearly quit skating after last season, tired of hearing how he'd never be among the world's elite. He's sure proven the critics wrong.

"He said, 'Look, I'm here and this isn't a fluke. I can do it and I'm going to keep doing it,'" coach Tom Zakrajsek said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBL Canada

Storm overpower Lightning in OT

In a possible preview of the National Basketball League of Canada final, the London Lightning lost to the Storm 123-118 in OT Thursday night in Summerside, P.E.I.

Marvin Phillips led Lightning scorers with 32 points, while Brandon Robinson dropped 36.

The Lightning finished the regular season with a record of 33-7, placing first in the Central Division and first overall. Summerside, 25-14, have clinched first in the Atlantic Division. The Storm wrap up their regular season Sunday against the Halifax Rainmen.

The Lightning have a first-round playoff bye, and open the post-season Monday, March 25, at Budweiser Gardens. METRO

Grinder Maton ready for his OHL moment

OHL. Knights call-up looking forward to living his hockey dream — literally

JOHN MATISZ
john.matisz@metronews.ca

Longtime London Knights equipment manager/trainer Chris Maton Sr. had proudly sewn the number 28 onto the back of his son's jersey in anticipation of the 20-year-old's first regular-season Ontario Hockey League game.

His undrafted son, Chris Jr., is expected to suit up for the short-handed Knights on Sunday in Sault Ste. Marie. It's the squad's final contest before battling the Saginaw Spirit next Friday in Game 1 of the playoffs.

One night in the Maton home, Chris Jr.'s girlfriend was making a minor fuss about the number. She didn't reveal why, but hinted to Chris Sr. that 28 just wasn't going to cut it for Chris Jr.

Chris Sr. asked his son what the problem was, but didn't get a peep out of him. "He's not a needy kid," he said.

Enter Chris Jr.'s mom.

London Knights call-up Chris Maton Jr., St. Thomas Stars forward and son of the Knights' equipment manager/trainer, will play in Sunday's game versus the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds. JOHN MATISZ/METRO

"She told me that Chris had a dream when he was younger," Chris Sr. said. "In it, he was playing for the Knights. He wore number 67 in the dream."

Chris Jr.'s hockey number growing up alternated between 6 and 7. He had switched to 28 last season when the Lambeth native made the Jr. B St. Thomas Stars.

So back to the Knights dressing room Chris Sr. went. If wearing 67 is important to his son, it's important to him as well. "I'm proud of him for what he's accomplished," he said of the Fanshawe College student.

Although Chris Jr.'s OHL career might start and end Sunday, it's still a tremendous feat considering the highest level of minor he played was C. Nearly all OHLers hone their craft on AAA teams before junior.

"He wants to be a Knight," London assistant coach Dylan Hunter said. "He came out to practice with us in the summer, came to camp, worked his butt off."

Chris Jr. has never been a top offensive threat. Instead, the six-foot-one, 200-pounder is a typical grinder — a "character guy," as Hunter puts it — that never seemed to stop smiling during Thursday's optional practice.

"I don't think so," said a wide-eyed Chris Jr., when asked if he's nervous for Sunday. "I mean, you never know, you could be. It's a big step, and I'm looking forward to it."

Called up

Jarred Tinordi, captain of last year's London Knights, has been called up to the Montreal Canadiens. He's slated to make his NHL debut Saturday when the team visits New Jersey.

This weekend

- **Friday.** At: Wendler Arena, 7:11 p.m.
  Versus: Saginaw Spirit
  Record: 31-28-3-3
  The hot hand: Eric Locke (44 goals, 51 assists)
- **Sunday.** At: Essar Centre, 7:07 p.m.
  Versus: Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds
  Record: 35-25-3-3
  The hot hand: Nick Cousins (26 goals, 75 assists)

*Statistics not including Thursday's games.

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Diaz cranks up the 'craziness' upon arrival in Montreal for UFC 158

MMA. Welterweight challenger has GSP shaking his head as pre-fight presser gets weird

One day after missing a scheduled public workout ahead of UFC 158, Nick Diaz put on a show.

The often-sullen California welterweight showed off his chatty side at a news conference Thursday, wielding the microphone like a talk-show host. Diaz hogged the dais, throwing out comments and interjecting whether there was a question directed his way or not. It ranged from the poignant to the bizarre.

"(In terms of) craziness, that was a 10 out of 10," UFC president Dana White said afterward.

At times, Diaz's stream-of-consciousness monologues seemed to bewilder champion Georges St-Pierre. Other times, a stone-faced GSP seemed antagonized and appalled.

"He's in a different place than he's ever been because he's really mad," White told reporters later.

Normally cool as a cucumber, St-Pierre (23-2) is jalapeno-hot going into Saturday's main event.

Diaz got GSP going after looking directly at the champ and castigating him for saying he reminded him of the bully who used to taunt the champion as a child.

Quoted

"Are you crazy in your head, man? I'm not scared of you. You'll see Saturday if I'm scared of you."

Georges St-Pierre to Nick Diaz on Thursday in Montreal

UFC president Dana White stands between Georges St-Pierre, left, and Nick Diaz during a news conference on Thursday in Montreal. GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

"How many times have you had a gun to your head, Georges? How many times has someone put a gun to your head? How many of your best friends been shot through the chest with a .45? Or how many of your best friends (have) been stomped or put to sleep into a coma?" said Diaz, who hails from the Stockton-Lodi area of California.

"We all had to deal with these things in life."

An incredulous St-Pierre looked like someone had just given him a fork and told him to eat a journalist in front of him.

"He told me a few days ago, 'I want to make sure when this is over he (Diaz) retires,'" White said after the news conference at the Bell Centre.

Diaz did apologize to the fans for skipping Wednesday's public workout, saying he had gotten in at midnight the night before and needed his sleep.

Diaz (27-8-1) has been suspended twice for testing positive for marijuana.

He was also dropped from a UFC 137 title fight with St-Pierre in October 2011 after failing to show up for news conferences in Toronto and Las Vegas. THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB

Tigers attack shaky Gee to top Mets

Dillon Gee struggled, giving up six runs in the New York Mets' 9-1 loss to the Detroit Tigers on Thursday. Gee allowed three hits, four walks and hit two batters in two innings. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB. Blue Jays' offence almost too good for Johnson

Toronto Blue Jays starting pitcher Josh Johnson delivers against the New York Yankees during a spring training game on Thursday in Dunedin, Fla. KATHY WILLENS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Toronto Blue Jays quickly warmed up on an unusually chilly day in Dunedin, Fla.

Josh Johnson allowed one run over three innings, Maicer Izturis had five RBIs and the Blue Jays routed the New York Yankees 17-5 on Thursday.

Johnson, coming off a start last Friday in which he retired all 11 batters he faced, gave up two hits and struck out five.

The biggest challenge Johnson faced was sitting in the dugout for long stretches during a pair of big Toronto innings on a windy day with a game-time temperature near 15 C.

"It's something, hopefully, I can get used to this year," Johnson said of the run support. "I don't think I ever really been through something like that. That was crazy, especially the first inning, come out and do that. It was awesome, but not fun at the time. You want to get out there and find that tempo."

Melky Cabrera drove in four runs for the Blue Jays, who led 15-1 after two innings. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Something you are told today may cause you to wonder if someone you thought was a friend is actually an enemy. Before you jump to conclusions make sure you have all the evidence.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Life can be easy or life can be hard – it all depends on the outlook you choose to adopt. Attitude is everything: the right attitude can make even the most difficult set of circumstances look easy.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You may not know why you distrust a work colleague but you know better than to ignore your instincts. If you don't want to get involved in what they are suggesting it is your right to say "No" and walk away.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Wisdom is not a destination but a journey. With that thought in mind don't fall into the trap of thinking you know it all today. Keep an open mind and you might learn something that gives you an advantage.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Don't fight change today because it will lead to something better. Yes, in the short-term it may be painful, but in the long-term it will benefit you in numerous ways.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Is there something you can do to make a loved one feel better about a difficult situation? A few words of comfort could be all it takes to give them the strength to battle against the odds – and win.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Let the world know what you think today, even if you worry that it might provoke a negative reaction. The truth should never be hidden or denied, so speak your mind and ignore those who don't like it.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You can do your reputation a world of good today by passing up the chance to get even with someone who has let you down. They may deserve a slap on the wrist but they're not worth the effort.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Other people may not be as quick off the mark as you today but that does not mean they are stupid. On the contrary, by taking things slower they are less likely to make mistakes.

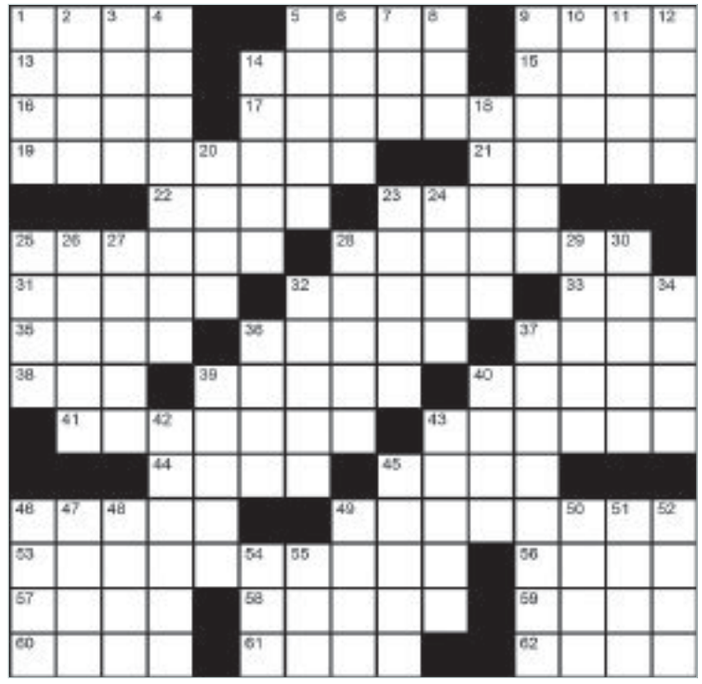
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You are at odds with someone over a serious issue and before the day is over there will be some harsh words flying around. Clear the air by all means but avoid making hasty decisions. Cool down a bit first.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You must look brave on the outside even though you may be scared on the inside. Believe it or not you are close to making a success of something you thought was going to fail big time.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
There is nothing you cannot do: your potential is unlimited. Whether or not you believe that is true does not matter – what matters is that you act as if it is true. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

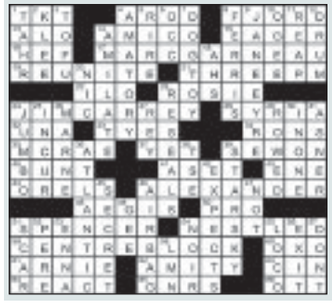
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. The __ of March
5. Actor Mr. MacLachlan
9. Place to skate
13. Wood-for-furniture
14. How canned seafood can be packed: 2 wds.
15. Rhyme scheme
16. Song in '65's "The Sound of Music": "Climb __ Mountain"
17. Klondike Gold Rush hub: 2 wds.
19. __-style bagels
21. Theatre lane
22. Horse coat style
23. Actors Ed or Keenan
25. Hamilton's football team, familiarly
28. Canadian journalist Valerie; also one of a chip brand
31. Island near the Statue of Liberty
32. Like a leaf's pattern
33. Meal morsel
35. "The __ King" (1994)
36. Shopping places
37. __ butter (Beauty product ingredient)
38. Washroom, for short
39. Religious orders
40. Sugar __ (Sap-to-syrup spot)
41. Juno-winning singer Ms. Cox
43. Juno-winning singer, Keshia __
44. Jealousy
45. Weaving machine
46. The Phantom of the __
49. Toronto-born cartoonist Joe Shuster's co-creation
53. Irish stage show that made Michael Flatley a star
56. Dancer in "Return of the Jedi" (1983)
57. Time: German
58. Margaret Atwood novel, __ Grace
59. Ranks like Klinger's on "M*A*S*H", for short
60. Finds in mines
61. Baseball gear
62. Singer Alicia

Down
1. Particular
2. "Whip It" band with tiered hats
3. Garner
4. Mode of transport in Vancouver
5. "Wavin' Flag" singer
6. Bellow
7. Fleur-de-__ [var. sp.]
8. "Strange Magic" gr.
9. Motorsport activity
10. Sacred __ (Revered bird in ancient Egypt)
11. 'N' in NHL, for short
12. Showbiz star Danny
14. Concepts
18. "__ McPhee" (2005)
20. Turns to compost
23. Legal documents
24. Yangs counterparts
25. "Live to __" by Madonna
26. Homer's epic poem
27. Sort of spice
28. City in Australia
29. Actress Lindsay
30. Put up a building
32. Holiday, slang-style
34. Choose
36. "Jeopardy!" creator Mr. Griffin
37. St. Patrick's Day symbol
39. Submarine instrument
40. It might be laced
42. Artist-style hats
43. Makes do
45. Star Wars creator George
46. Rice-shaped pasta
47. __ 1 Imports
48. Songstress Ms. Sands
49. Miffed state
50. Sulk
51. Friendly nation
52. It's in northern BC, __ River
54. Lightly apply
55. Wing-like part

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

	2	3				8		
			4	3				5
4					6			3
		1	5		9		3	
	6			1			7	
	7		3		4	5		
5			9					8
2				4	3			
		8				9	4	

Yesterday's Sudoku

9	4	7	6	1	8	5	3	2
3	2	8	9	5	7	6	4	1
6	5	1	4	3	2	7	9	8
2	1	5	3	4	6	8	7	9
7	3	4	2	8	9	1	5	6
8	6	9	5	7	1	3	2	4
1	8	3	7	2	4	9	6	5
5	9	2	8	6	3	4	1	7
4	7	6	1	9	5	2	8	3

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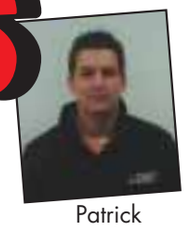

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